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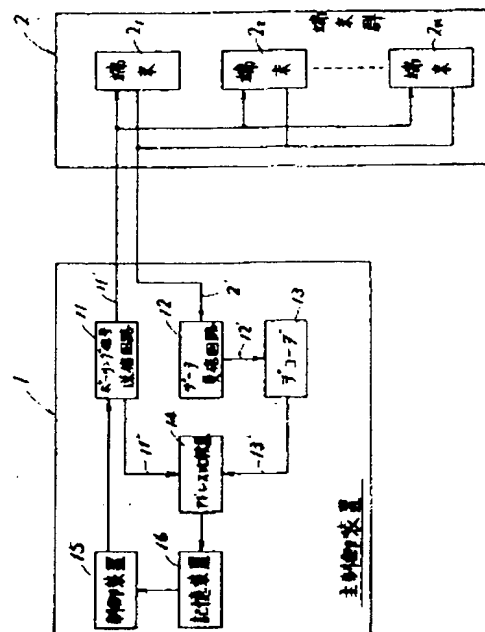
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TITLE : COMMUNICATION CONTROLLER



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To improve the communication efficiency, and to cope easily with increase/decrease of a terminal device by grasping the number of terminals connected to a main controller at present at all times, and deciding the number of terminals to be polled succeedingly based on the number.

CONSTITUTION: A polling signal transmission circuit 11 of the main controller 1 executes polling to the number (n+1) more than the connection terminal number (n) by one at each prescribed period. Terminals 2₁~2_n transmits a connection confirming signal 2' to the polling. The signal 2' is decoded by a decoder 13. An address comparator 14 of the controller 1 compares a transmission address 11' from the circuit 11 with decoded information 13' from a decoder 13 so as to check whether or not a terminal being an objective of polling is connected. When the polling address is (n+1) and the output 13' represents connecting state, the contents of a storage device 16 are revised because the connecting terminals are increased. Further, when the signal 2' is not received to the polling, it is regarded that the terminal at the execution of polling is removed and the contents of the storage device 16 are revised.

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